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RORY REID
Chairman

Board of County Commissioners

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VIA FACSIMILE

July 9, 2008

Charles D Nottingham, Chairman
U.S. Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, Southwest
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUL 18 2008

Part of
Public Record

Re FD35106, U S DOE/Caliente Rail Line

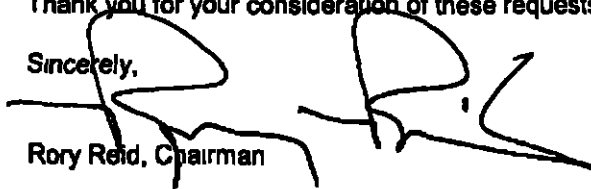
Dear Chairman Nottingham

It is my understanding that the Department of Energy's application to construct and operate a new rail line, known as the "Caliente Rail Line" is in the review process under your jurisdiction. In April 2008, Clark County Nuclear Waste Planning Manager, Irene Navis, met with members of your General Counsel and Communications staff. At that time, Ms. Navis made a request on behalf of the ten affected units of local government in Nevada who have concerns over transportation issues related to the proposed nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain. The request was for a public workshop to take place here in Nevada, for the benefit of stakeholders and citizens alike, who have an interest in how the Surface Transportation Board process works. To date, we have not heard back whether this request has been granted, and the application review process continues to move forward. On June 3, during a public meeting of the Clark County Board of Commissioners, we provided direction to our staff to pursue the public workshop, as well as urge the STB to hold a public hearing on this matter of interest and importance to Nevada residents.

I understand that a deadline of July 15 has been set for interested parties to submit notices of appearance and position statements in this matter. I urge you to direct your staff to extend the time on this deadline, in order to provide affected governments and citizens an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the Surface Transportation Board's role and process before more progress is made in the review process. As you can well imagine, the construction of a rail line in Nevada is a complex and sensitive issue, especially for purposes of transporting radioactive materials. We hope that you will take this into consideration, and extend the response deadline for at least 60 days, to allow you and your staff to conduct a workshop in Nevada for the purpose of informing the public and lending transparency to your process. We will submit our request for a formal public hearing on the DOE's application when we file our response to the application. We welcome you to conduct the workshop in Clark County, and would be pleased to work with your staff to provide an appropriate venue.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rory Reid', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Rory Reid, Chairman

cc: Nevada Congressional Delegation
Bob Loux, Nevada Nuclear Projects Office
Affected Units of Local Government
Irene Navis, Planning Manager

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

All Parties of Record have been served.

**Party Of Record: Bauser, Michael A.
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**Party Of Record: Becker, Rochelle
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**Party Of Record: Bell, Kevin W.
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1516 9Th Street
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**Party Of Record: Brown, Jr., Edmund G.
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**Party Of Record: Bullcreek, Margene
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**Party Of Record: Cole, Jan
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**Party Of Record: Cyphers, Michael S.
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Party Of Record: Phillips, Mayor Kevin
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